Message Text

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11/12

ACTION SS-25

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O 250812Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1663
USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1610

SECRETSEOUL 5621

EXDIS

CORRECTEDCOPYTEXT

DEPT PASS SECDEF WASHDC, JCS WASHDC, CINCPAC

JOINT EMBASSY/UNC MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MCAP, UNGA, KS SUBJECT: LOWERING OF UNC PROFILE

REF: (A) STATE 147379 (B) STATE 178615 (C) SEOUL 4189

- 1. REF A CONFIRMS USG DECISION TO LOWER UNC PROFILE; REF B ASKS FOR DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS ON FURTHER LOWERING OF UNC PROFILE AND SCHEDULE FOR IMPLEMENTATION; REF C CONTAINS EMBASSY SEOUL'S RECOMMENDED ACTIONS IN LOWERING UNC PROFILE. THIS MESSAGE RESPONDS TO REF B.
- 2. OUR PLAN FOR LOWERING THE UNC PROFILE IS AS OUTLINED BELOW. THE STEPS WE PROPOSE WILL RESULT IN LOWERING ALL BUT 16 UN FLAGS OF THE 90 ODD FLAGS NOW FLOWN BY US UNITS, REPRESENTING A 70 PERCENT REDUCTION.
- (A) ALL US INSTALLATIONS SOUTH OF THE REAR BOUNDARIES OF FROKA AND I CORPS (ROK/US) GROUP WILL DISCONTINUE DISPLAY OF UN FLAG EFFECTIVE RETREAT 15 AUG 75 WITH EXCEPTION OF HQ, 314TH AD (OSAN), HQS 38TH ADA BDE (OSAN) AND THE US NAVAL SECRET

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DET CO-LOCATED AT CHINHAE WITH HQ, ROK FLEET. THESE HQS EXERCISE DAY TO DAY OPCON OF ROK FORCES UNDER AUTHORITY OF CINCUNC AND WILL THEREFORE CONTINUE TO DISPLAY UN FLAGS UNTIL 1 JAN 76 OR SUCH TIME UNC DISSOLUTION IS COMPLETED,

WHICHEVER IS LATER. ALSO EXEMPT FROM LOWERING THE UN FLAG WILL BE BATTERY D, 2D BN 44TH ADA (SITE 2), BTRY F, 2D BN 44TH ADA (SITE 1), AND BTRY A, 2D BN 71ST ADA (SITE 42). THESE ADA SITES UNDER OPCON OF COMMANDER KOREAN AIRDEFENSE SECTOR, UNC, HAVE THEIR ENGAGEMENT ENVELOPES COVERING THE DMZ.

(B) NORTH OF THE REAR BOUNDARIES AS SPECIFIED IN 2A ABOVE, UN FLAGS ON US INSTALLATIONS WILL BE LOWERED RETREAT 22 AUG 75 WITH EXCEPTION OF FOLLOWING UNITS/INSTALLATIONS WHICH HAVE AN ONGOING UN MISSION: HQ UNC, SEOUL; HQ I CORPS GROUP (CAMP RED CLOUD); THOSE HQ IN THE CHAIN OF COMMAND TO THE US COMPANY CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY OF THAT SEGMENT OF DMZ REMAINING UNDER US CONTROL, (HQ 2D DIVISION, (CAMP CASEY), HQ 3D BDE, 2D INF DIV, (CAMP HOWZE), 1ST BATTALION, 31ST INF (CAMP GREAVES/DODGE); THOSE DISPLAYED IN THE JSA (CAMP KITTY HAWK, FLAG PLAZA AND CAMP LIBERTY BELL); BTRY'S B&C 2D BN 71ST ADA (CAMP IRWIN) AND BTRY D, 2D BN 71ST ADA (CAMP HILL). THE FOREGOING ADA SITES OPERATE WITHIN AN INTEGRATED ROK/US AIR DEFENSE NETWORK UNDER OPCON OF COMMANDER KOREAN AIR DEFENSE SECTOR, UNC. AND ARE LOCATED IN THE FWD AREA. AGAIN TIMING OF UNC DISSOLUTION WILL BE DETERMINING FACTOR IN LOWERING THESE FLAGS.

- (C) THE TEN UN FLAGS (NINE AFTER FUCHU AIR STATION REVERTS TO GOVERNMENT JAPAN, 31 JULY 75) FLYING ON UN BASES IN JAPAN WILL REMAIN.
- (D) THE UNC HONOR GUARD WILL REMAIN FOR REASONS AS OUTLINED IN REF.C.
- 3. FLAGS ARE THE MOST PROMINENT, VISIBLE SYMBOLS OF THE UN PRESENCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF SIGNS AND EMBLEMS, BEARING UNC INSIGNIA IN USE BY UNITS WHOSE UNC FLAG WILL BE LOWERED. AFTER LOWERING OF FLAGS INDICATED IN PARA 2 ABOVE, THESE OTHER MANIFESTATIONS WILL BE ALSO PHASED OUT IN THE UNITS CONCERNED. A PROGRAM TO REMOVE THESE OTHER SYMBOLS REQUIRES A MORE DELIBERATE PROCESS SECRET

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SO AS NOT TO ATTRACT UNWARRANTED PUBLIC ATTENTION. ALSO, SUCH A PHASING PERMITS PROPER REDUCTION OF STOCKS ON HAND AND CANCELLATION OF CONTRACTS AND REQUISITIONS.

4. INTERPRETATION OF REF B IS THAT UN OPCON IS CRITERION FOR DISPLAYING UN FLAG. SINCE ROK FORCES ARE UNDER UNC OPCON, LOWERING OF THE UNC PROFILE WILL BE US INSTALLATION ACTION ONLY. EMBASSY WILL DISCUSS WITH ROKG QUESTION OF LOWERING UN FLAGS AT ROK UNITS. AT PRESENT WE ARE NOT CERTAIN ABOUT NUMBER OF UN FLAGS FLYING OVER ROK UNITS. REQUEST GUIDANCE ON UN FLAGS AT ROK UNITS. SNEIDER

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